

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DOHA 00611 181247Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 /066 W
-----190211Z 060970 /62

R 181020Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY DOHA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2613
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
COMIDEASTFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L DOHA 0611

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, QA
SUBJECT: ARABIZATION OF QATARI ARMED FORCES

REF: DOHA 252 (NOTAL)

1. COLONEL SALAH AL DIN AZZAB, AN EGYPTIAN, HAS TAKEN OVER
COMMAND OF THE QATARI SEA ARM, REPLACING COLONEL KENNETH LEE-
WHITE, A BRITISH CONTRACT OFFICER WHO HAD SERVED IN THAT
POSITION FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

2. WE ARE ALSO INFORMED THAT A SUDANESE OFFICER HAS REPLACED
THE OPERATIONAL COMMANDER OF THE QATARI GROUND FORCES, COLONEL
JOHN COWLEY, WHO WAS ALSO A BRITISH CONTRACT OFFICER WHO HAD
BEEN IN THAT POSITION FOR 6 YEARS.

3. DURING MAY 17 CONVERSATION, WE ASKED BRIGADIER MOHAMED AL
ATTIYAH, DEPUTY COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF QATARI ARMED FORCES, IF
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RECENT REPLACEMENT OF WESTERN EXPATRIATE OFFICERS WAS PART OF
PLAN TO ARABIZE QAF. ATTIYAH DENIED THAT THIS WAS GOQ'S INTENT-
ION, AND CLAIMED OQAT CHANGES WERE DESIGNED PRIMARILY FOR
INCREASED EFFICIENCY AND PARTICULARLY BECAUSE OF NEED FOR
ARABIC-SPEAKING COMMANDERS.

4. COMMENT: ATTIYAH'S COMMENTS NOTWITHSTANDING, WE BELIEVE GOQ

IS FOLLOWING EXAMPLE OF OTHER GULF STATES IN PHASING OUT ITS
BRITISH CONTRACT MILITARY PERSONNEL.
PAGANELLI

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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